

LIBRARY



Sittingbourne & Milton Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

OF

Sittingbourne and Milton

For the Year ending December 31st, 1941

BY

FREDERICK WOLVERSON

M.D.

*On pages 9 and 10 will be found a list of Clinics, and times
at which they are held*

Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council

Chairman—A. J. BEDELLE, Esq., J.P.*

Vice-Chairman—H. FOSTER, Esq.

COUNCILLOR Rev. H. BRADBURN.*

„ T. BUGGS.

„ C. F. CLOKE.*

„ (Chairman of Health Committee).

„ L. M. EASTON.

„ H. S. GILHAM.*

„ R. J. GOLDSMITH.*

„ Mrs. H. HARVEY.*

„ P. C. HUBBARD.*

„ P. J. JEFFERY.

„ E. J. LANDEN.

„ E. J. MEARS.*

„ F. J. MILLEN.*

„ F. READ.*

„ F. W. SEARS.*

„ F. L. WALSH.

„ P. L. WELLS, J.P.*

NOTE.—Those marked * are Members of the Health Committee.

Clerk to the Council—G. H. POTTER.

Medical Officer of Health—

FREDERICK WOLVERSON, M.D., C.M.

The Medical Officer of Health is in charge of the A.R.P. Casualty Services of the town, is Medical Officer to the Infant Welfare Clinic, acts as Assistant County Medical Officer of Kent in respect of all Sittingbourne and Milton Schools, and is the Administrative Medical Officer to Keycol Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital and Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

Medical Officer to Clinic for Expectant Mothers—

HILDA K. BRADE-BIRKS, M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Finance Officer—W. BALSON, A.I.A.C.

Surveyors—

M. W. LASHMAR, M.Inst.M. and Cy.E.

A. W. CALLAWAY, M. & C.E., M.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector—

JOSEPH VARLEY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors—

Miss MABEL REESE, S.R.N., H.V. Certificate

Miss G. N. BAKER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Health Department,
Church Street, Sittingbourne.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health, sanitary and casualty services of the Urban District for the year 1941.

The health of the district during the year has been satisfactory in spite of war conditions, and there does not appear to be, as yet, any serious deterioration in the health of the public or of nutrition either of adults or children.

Among school children, however, it is remarked that there is more liability to fatigue, and some loss of appetite, due perhaps to monotony in diet.

There is no question that the milk distribution scheme for school children has to a large extent saved the situation, and I am of opinion that free milk should be given to all school children irrespective of either their physical condition, or their financial position for the duration of the war.

An epidemic of Measles took place in the summer.

Nine hundred and fifty-nine cases were notified. The infection was of a mild type, and no deaths resulted.

Five hundred and ninety-three cases occurred in the month of June, and children between the ages of 5 and 10 constituted 60 per cent. of the total cases.

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate for the year is 19,880, compared with 20,670 in 1940.

Birth Rate.

The corrected rate was 13.4 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population during the calendar year, 1st January—31st December, inclusive.

Death Rate.

The corrected rate was 12.42 per 1,000 estimated average population, compared with 13.5 per 1,000 in 1940.

Infant Mortality Rate.

There were 6 deaths of infants under one year of age, making the death rate 22.38 per 1,000 births. The rate for England is 59 per 1,000 births. This is very satisfactory.

Tuberculosis Death Rate.

This was 0.4 per 1,000 of the population,

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Services are functioning well, and the attendance at all Clinics has increased.

Of the 268 children born in Sittingbourne and Milton during 1941, 179 were brought to the Clinic at some time during their first year, *i.e.*, a percentage of 66.7, as compared with 54.3 in 1940.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria.

During the year 2,897 school children, and 562 children under school age, were immunised against diphtheria by the Medical Officer of Health. Many others were treated by private Practitioners. A monthly Clinic is now held for this purpose.

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Keycol Hill Hospital continues to be well and effectively conducted. The only difficulty is that which is common to all such Institutions at the present moment, namely, shortage of staff.

Typhus Fever.

The Ministry issued certain instructions with regard to the above disease in November, 1941.

After much negotiation an arrangement has been entered into for the County to undertake the management of the facilities for the treatment of this disease, and it is understood that no cases will be received at Keycol Hill.

Scabies.

In November, 1941, under the Defence Regulations, the Ministry of Health gave compulsory powers to the Medical Officers of Health to deal with this disease. As a result of this I have obtained authority from the Health Committee to establish at Keycol Hill Hospital a Cleansing Station for this and other verminous diseases. This very important forward step has been made possible by the co-operation of the Joint Hospital Board, and the Station is equally available for cases from the Swale area.

I wish to thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Health Committee, and all the members of the Council for the assistance and encouragement which they have at all times so generously afforded me.

I have the honour to remain, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentleman,

Your obedient servant,

F. WOLVERSON,

Medical Officer of Health,

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS CASUALTY SERVICES.

The A.R.P. Casualty Services are under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health (acting by the authority of the A.R.P. Committee, A. J. Bedelle, Esq., J.P., Sub-Controller).

The organisation includes a fully equipped First Aid Post and Cleansing Centre at Johnson House, Burley Road, Sittingbourne, and a Mobile Unit based on the Ambulance Dépôt, Chalkwell Road.

There are 9 Ambulances, 6 First Aid Party Cars, and 6 Sitting Case Cars.

The fleet is dispersed in three dépôts, and is capable of mobilisation in a few minutes, day or night. The personnel, which is almost entirely voluntary, is as follows :—

Transport and Ambulance Officer, W. J. Peacock, Esq., J.P. Mr. Peacock acts as Assistant to the Medical Officer of Health for all casualty services, and as his Deputy when necessary. He is the Association County Secretary for St. John Ambulance Association.

Mr. L. R. Dence is Divisional Superintendent of St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The Medical Officers in charge of the First Aid Post and the Mobile Unit for operational and training purposes, are :—Dr. Alexander Chalmers and Dr. Kenneth Hardy.

Lady Superintendent for St. John Ambulance Brigade, Mrs. M. Dobbie.

Thirty-seven Nurses, all voluntary, of whom 7 are members of the Civil Nursing Reserve.

Superintendent Telephonist, Mrs. W. J. Peacock.

The whole of the medical and nursing staff is operationally interchangeable between the First Aid Post and Mobile Unit, as directed by the Medical Officer of Health or his Assistants.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council is autonomous in respect of Maternity and Child Welfare.

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee consists of the Health Committee and the following co-opted members :—Mrs. S. Spice, Mrs. F. Wells, Mrs. I. Porter, Mrs. J. H. High.

Returns Giving Particulars of the Work Done During 1941.

1. Population of the area served by the Council, 19,880.
2. Number of births notified in the area during the year under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications :—(a) Live Births, 252 ; (b) Still Births, 6. Of these 225 were notified by Midwives and 33 by Parents or Doctors. Total, 258.

3. Health Visiting.

Number of Health Visitors employed at the end of the year by the Council, 2.

Number of visits paid during the year by Health Visitors, 3,565.

- (i) To expectant mothers. First visits, 15. Total visits, 20.
- (ii) To children under 1 year of age. First visits, 268. Total visits, 1,462.
- (iii) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. Total visits, 2,083.

4. Infant Welfare Centres.

- (a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council, 1.
- (b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—
 - (i) Under 1 year of age, 179.
 - (ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 43.
- (c) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were :—
 - (i) Under 1 year of age, 153.
 - (ii) Over 1 year of age, 364.
- (d) Total number of attendances of children under 5 at Clinic during 1941, 3,888.
- (e) Total number of consultations given by Medical Officer of Health, 1,343.
- (f) Total number of children who received Dental Treatment, 13.

Average Attendance at Various Clinics for the year ending December 31st, 1941.

January 1st until June 30th :—Infants, 30.9 per Clinic. Toddlers, 7 per Clinic.

July 1st to December (when the Toddlers' Clinic was discontinued), the average attendance was 40.9 per Clinic.

It has been found in practice that the cessation of the special Toddlers' Clinic, and invitation to bring the older children on the same days as the babies, has resulted in increased numbers of Toddlers being seen.

5. Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Services.

- (i) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council, 1.

Total number of women who attended at the Clinics during the year, 146.

- (ii) Total number of attendances made during year, 513.

- (iii) Number of women sent during the year to a Maternity Institution, 3.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS' CLINIC.

The change in the time of the Clinic for Expectant Mothers has practically doubled the average attendance.

From January 1st until July 31st, during which period the Clinic was held on a Thursday morning, the average attendance of the mothers was 7.2 ; from August 1st to December 31st, during which period the Clinic was held on a Wednesday afternoon, the average attendance was 13.6.

The average attendance for the whole of the year was 9.8 per Clinic. The average attendance for 1940 was 7.5. Of the total number of attendances made during the year at the Clinic, that is 513, 424 were of women of Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District, and 89 were by women from the surrounding county area.

Of the total number of women who attended during the year, that is to say, 146, 117 were residents of the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District, and 29 came from the county districts surrounding.

Dr. Hilda Brade-Birks, Medical Officer to the Clinic for Expectant Mothers, has kindly furnished me with the following Report :—

The year 1941 proved a satisfactory one for the Ante-Natal Clinic.

The absence of serious air raids made it possible for the mothers to attend regularly. Most cases were seen once a month, and more often when extra care and observation were indicated,

During the year 146 mothers made 513 attendances, an average per Clinic of 9.8.

It is interesting to note that there was an improvement in attendances after the change over from a morning to an afternoon session.

From January to July 31st (when the change took effect) there were 59 new cases with an attendance of 217—an average of 7 per Clinic.

From August 1st to December 31st there were 87 new cases, with a total attendance of 296—an average of nearly 14 per Clinic.

Full use was made of the facilities for obtaining milk and eggs ; and many cases received dental treatment with very satisfactory improvement in health and comfort.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION (Sections 206 to 220 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

- (a) Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year, 3.
- (b) Number of children on the Register :—
 - (1) At the end of the year, 3.
 - (2) Who died during the year, Nil.
 - (3) On whom inquests were held during the year, Nil.
- (c) Proceedings taken during the year :—
 - Number of Cases, Nil.
 - Act and Section under which proceedings were taken, Nil.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES (Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

Number of Homes		Number of Patients provided for		
		Maternity Patients	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during the year	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of the year	1	1	—	1
	1	1	—	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. **Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.**—One, Health Department, Church Street, Sittingbourne, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4. By Health Committee.
2. **Clinic for Expectant Mothers.**—One, at Health Department, Church Street, Sittingbourne, every Wednesday afternoon, from 2 p.m. to 4. By Health Committee.

Dental treatment, including the provision of artificial teeth, is provided for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and also extractions for children under 5. This is carried out at the County Dental Clinic by arrangement with the Kent Education Committee.

An agreement has been made with certain Hospitals to provide for the operative treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids, and for the treatment of Ophthalmia in new born children.

Arrangements are also made in cases of complicated pregnancy for the patient to be seen by an Obstetric Specialist, and if he advises, to be taken into a Hospital for treatment.

Patients are admitted to certain Nursing Homes where circumstances or conditions render it desirable that the confinement should not take place at home.

In necessitous cases the cost of all these services is partly or wholly borne by the Health Committee. All cases must be approved by the Medical Officer of Health for submission to the Committee.

3. **Immunisation against Diphtheria.**—By Local Authority. A Clinic for this purpose is held on the last Friday in every month.

A notice is sent to the parent of every child on its attaining the age of one year, and propaganda is undertaken by Health Visitors, School Teachers, etc.

4. **School Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—Minor Ailments Clinic, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Saturday mornings, 9.30 a.m. By County Council.
5. **Dental Clinic.** — Albany Road, Sittingbourne, by appointment. By County Council.
6. **Ophthalmic Clinic.**—Albany Road, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month. By County Council.

7. **Aural Clinic.**—Albany Road, by County Council. Aural Surgeon attends on 2nd Thursday in every month for treatment of school children.
8. **Tuberculosis Dispensary.** — Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Mondays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. By County Council.
9. **Orthopædic Clinic.**—Health Office, Church Street. By County Council. Surgeon attends 4th Tuesday, 10 a.m. Masseuse attends 2nd Tuesday, 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for treatment of school children.
10. **Nursing in the Home.**—Two District Nurses provided by the Sittingbourne, Milton Regis and Murston Nursing Association.
11. **Midwives.**—Five, four of these are employed by the Kent County Council under the Midwives Act, 1936.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Dental, Ophthalmic, Aural and Orthopædic Clinics are available, by agreement between the Health Committee and the Kent County Council, for children under 5 years of age.

As the Health Committee is responsible for the cost of treatment of these children, it is essential that all appointments should be made by Medical Practitioners or parents through the Health Department in order that the necessary records may be available when accounts are presented.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres).—4,935.

Resident Population (mid 1941). — Registrar-General's estimate, 19,880.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1941) according to Rate Books.—6,095.

Rateable Value.—£109,200.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1940-1941.—£417.

Birth Rate.—The total number of births registered was 268, consisting of 129 males and 139 females, equivalent to 13.4 per 1,000. In 1940 it was 15.4 per 1,000.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births (Legitimate)	257	123	134
Live Births (Illegitimate)	11	6	5
Stillbirths	7	5	2

The rate of stillbirths per 1,000 total births was 25.4.

Death Rate.—The number of deaths during the year was 247, of which 133 were males, and 134 were females, equivalent to a rate of 12.42 per thousand of the estimated average population. In 1940 it was 13.5 per 1,000. The chief causes of death were :—(1) Heart Disease ; (2) Cancer ; (3) Cerebral Hæmorrhage ; (4) Bronchitis.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.—Nil.

Infantile Mortality.—During the year there were 6 deaths (4 boys and 2 girls), of infants under one year of age.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births, 22.38 ; Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births, 22.38. There were no deaths of illegitimate infants.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).—49.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).—Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).—Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under two years of age).—Nil.

Natural Increase of Population.—The excess of births over deaths was 21, compared with 40 in the previous year.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year there were (including Tuberculosis) 1,085 cases notified, compared with 131 in the previous year. These included :—

Scarlet Fever.—54 cases, as compared with 47 in the previous year. Most of the cases were mild in type. There were no deaths. All were treated in Hospital.

Diphtheria.—Twelve cases as compared with three in the previous year. They were treated in Hospital. One fatal case.

Typhoid Fever.—One case occurred, which was treated in Hospital. There was one case in the previous year.

Measles.—959 cases notified, all mild in type.

Whooping Cough.—Thirty-three cases notified.

Infantile Paralysis.—No case notified.

Tuberculosis.—There were 9 cases of Pulmonary and 3 Non-Pulmonary cases notified, as compared with 11 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary case in the previous year.

Other Notifiable Diseases. — Erysipelas, 1 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 3 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Nil ; Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, 8.

A COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS, Etc., OF 1941 WITH 1940.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality	Typhoid	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis all forms
1941		13.4	22.38	1	12	56	8
1940	15.4	13.5	57	1	3	47	12

INFANT MORTALITY.

ALL AGES UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.
Under Four Weeks	1	2
Four Weeks—Three Months	2	—
Three Months—Six Months	1	—
Six Months—Nine Months	—	—
Nine Months—One Year	—	—

ALL CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.
Premature Birth	—	1
Congenital Debility, etc.	1	1
Broncho-Pneumonia	2	—
Enlarged Thymus	1	—

Here 4 deaths out of 6 resulted from premature birth and congenital causes. The remaining 2 from pneumonia.

The number of infants' deaths in the preceding years were :

1940	19
1939	9
1938	10
1937	11
1936	12
1935	11
1934	18

MATERNAL DEATHS.

Number of women who died in, or in consequence of, child-birth in the area served by the Committee for Maternity and Child Welfare during the year :—

- (1) From Sepsis, Nil.
- (2) From other causes, Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1941

According to Returns of Registrar-General

Disease				Males	Females	Total
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	—	2	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	—	1	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	5	2	7
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	—	1
Cancer of Oesophagus (Male) and Uterus (Female)	...	...	...	5	4	9
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	7	7	14
Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	—	2	2
Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	10	14	24
Diabetes	...	...	...	1	1	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	17	22	39
Heart Disease	...	...	...	32	25	57
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	2	2	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	10	7	17
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	7	9	16
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	2	—	2
Syphilis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	3	—	3
Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	2	—	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	1	5	6
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
Premature Birth	...	...	...	2	2	4
Congenital Malformation, birth injury, infantile disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
Suicide	...	...	...	1	—	1
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	5	—	5
Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	4	2	6
All Other Causes	...	...	...	15	6	21
Totals				133	114	247

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1941

Causes of Death	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 years and over
Diphtheria	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Influenza	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	7	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	1
Other Tuberculosis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer	49	...	...	...	...	...	6	15	28
Diabetes	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc ...	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	32
Heart Disease	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	52
Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Bronchitis	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	15
Pneumonia, all forms	16	2	1	...	...	...	3	2	8
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peptic Ulcer	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Appendicitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Digestive Diseases ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Puerperal Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Violence	11	...	...	...	2	1	4	2	2
Other Defined Diseases (including Old Age)	21	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	13
Totals 1941 ...	247	6	1	2	3	3	23	50	159
Totals 1940 ...	274	19	...	3	9	10	32	63	138

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1941.

	Scabies	Impetigo	Chicken-Pox	Ringworm	Mumps	Rubella	Tonsillitis
January	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
April	1	—	10	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
June	—	1	3	—	1	—	—
July	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
October	6	—	—	—	1	—	—
November	9	3	3	—	—	—	—
December	8	4	52	1	—	—	—
Totals	27	8	77	2	2	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 9 notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs, as compared with 11 in 1940.

The figures for the years 1936 to 1941 were as follows :—

Year.	Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Non- Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1936	12	0.5	5	0.2
1937	12	0.6	9	0.4
1938	12	0.5	4	0.1
1939	13	0.6	4	0.1
1940	11	0.5	1	0.04
1941	9	0.45	3	0.15

No action was necessary under the Regulations of the 1925 Act to prevent handling of milk by tuberculous persons.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

No. on Register.	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary.	Total.
1st January, 1941	136	43	179
31st December, 1941	137	43	180

Of the above cases, 5 were cured, 8 died, and 2 removed to other districts. Sixteen fresh cases were added to the Register.

NOTIFIABLE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1941.

Disease				Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	54	54	Nil
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	12	12	1
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	1	1	Nil
Measles ...	...	...	...	959	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	33	Nil	Nil
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	8	7	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	1	1	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	3	2	Nil
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	2	Nil	Nil

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

		Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	...	1	3	3	3	7	19	8	3	4	1	1	1	54
Diphtheria ...	...	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	2	2	—	—	—	12
Typhoid Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Measles ...	...	17	57	84	81	90	548	69	6	6	1	—	—	959
Whooping Cough	...	1	4	1	4	8	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	8
Erysipelas ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Totals 1941 ...	...	19	64	91	89	106	585	82	12	17	3	3	2	1073
Totals 1940 ...	...	4	8	11	9	10	44	8	5	12	3	5	—	119

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 172.

There was no necessity to take any action under these Regulations which provide for the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Table compiled from Local Records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases and deaths during 1941.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
10-15	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
15-20	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
20-35	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
35-45	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1
45-65	...	3	...	...	1	2	...	...
65 & over ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	5	4	2	1	4	3	...	1

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE.

The death rate was 0.4 per 1,000 of estimated population for all forms.

According to the Registrar-General's returns deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs numbered 8, giving a death rate of 0.35 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.57 in the previous year, and from other forms 1, or a death rate of 0.05 per 1,000 of the population.

The following table is inserted for the purposes of comparison :—

Year	Deaths			Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmon	Non-Pulmon	All Forms	Pulmon.	Non-Pulmon.
1936	11	10	1	0.5	0.4	0.04
1937	12	12	—	0.6	0.6	—
1938	8	6	2	0.3	0.2	0.09
1939	18	14	4	0.8	0.6	0.1
1940	12	11	1	0.5	0.5	0.04
1941	8	7	1	0.4	0.35	0.05

HOSPITALS.

Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital, 110 beds.

Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 51 beds.

Under the control of the Joint Board of the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council and the Swale Rural District Council. Chairman, G. E. Stevens, Esq., J.P.

Administrative Medical Officer, the Medical Officer of Health for Sittingbourne.

Clinical Medical Officers, F. M. Mallinson, M.B., B.S., and J. A. Robson, M.D. Matron, Mrs. A. M. Jebb.

Memorial Hospital, Sittingbourne, number of beds, 14, and 3 cots.

The Hospital is staffed by the Medical Practitioners of Sittingbourne, and a Consultant attends when necessary. Matron, Miss M. E. Herd.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

1. For urgent cases and accidents the Ambulance Committee of the Urban District Council.
2. For infectious cases (Joint Board at Keycol Hill).
3. St. John Ambulance Brigade.
4. Private Ambulance of Messrs. Bowater-Lloyd.

LABORATORY AND ANALYSES.

Bacteriological examinations of all kinds by County Council Laboratory, Maidstone.

Analyses of milk and water, etc., by County Council, Maidstone.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The routine inspection of school children is conducted by the Medical Officer of Health acting as Assistant to the County Medical Officer. One whole day a week is thus occupied, and attendance is made at the School Clinic every Saturday morning.

The school population is about 3,200, and is distributed in 14 elementary departments and two secondary schools.

SHELTERS.

Fortunately the Public Shelters in the town have not been much used. They remain in good structural and hygienic condition.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These have been inspected and are in good order,

PUBLIC BATHS.

These have been inspected and are in good order.

BILLETING.

A certain number of houses were rendered uninhabitable by enemy action during the year. The people concerned found billets with the assistance of Mr. Varley, Billeting Officer, and they have been gradually absorbed into the existing accommodation.

VACCINATIONS.

During the year 1941, 80 children were successfully vaccinated, while 141 were exempted as a result of conscientious objection on the part of the parents. It is to be regretted that so many should refuse to take advantage of the protection afforded by this simple operation.

PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Houses Let in Lodgings. — There are 2 Common Lodging Houses and 2 houses let in lodgings. Frequent visits are made to ensure compliance with the bye-laws.

Fried Fish Shops.—There are 7 in the District.

Rag and Bone Dealers.—There are 3 in the District.

Bakehouses.—Seven.

Meat.—There are 10 licensed Slaughter Houses in the District.

MILK.

There are 2 cowkeepers, 7 milkshops and dairies, and 23 purveyors of milk.

A number of shopkeepers are selling “Sterilised Milk,” which is sold in bottles only. There are 2 retailers of Tuberculin Tested milk and 1 retailer of Pasteurised milk in the district.

Frequent inspections are made of the premises where milk is produced and retailed, and in addition periodical samples are taken for bacteriological examination.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This involves inspection of dairies, cowsheds, bakehouses, butchers’ shops, slaughter houses, fried fish shops, ice cream stores, pressed and preserved meat premises, and restaurants.

Specimens of milk are taken for examination for the number of organisms present, and also tested for the presence of Bovine Tubercle Bacilli, but the County Council is the responsible authority for sampling under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act,

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTY OF KENT.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the administrative area of the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council during the year ended the 31st December, 1941.

Article	No. of Samples
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	1
Aspirin	1
Beef Sausages (Preserved)	1
Boracic Ointment	1
Butter	5
Cheese	1
Chocolate Cup	1
Coffee, Pure	1
Coffee Extract, Pure	1
Cod Liver Oil	2
Cream of Tartar	1
Crushed Linseed	1
Egg Substitute	1
Lard	5
" Lemex " (Lemon Substitute)	2
Malted Food	1
Margarine	5
New Milk	27
Orange Essence	1
Raisin Flavour Wine	1
Spirits of Nitrous Ether	1
Sugar, " Sugarette " and " Sweeta " Saccharin Tablets	3
Tapioca	1
Tea	1
Teafusa	1
Vanilla Chocolate	1
Vitamised Carinol Onion	1
Whisky	3
White Mercury Ointment	1
	—
	73
	—

All samples genuine with the exception of the under-mentioned :—

Two Samples Lemon Substitute " Lemex." Labels on bottles misleading. Manufacturers fined £15 and £1 1s. costs.

Whisky, 44.63 degrees under proof. Licensee fined £5 and £1 1s. costs.

New Milk, 13.0 per cent. and 13.3 per cent. deficient in fat. From one producer. Dealt with by County Agricultural Organiser.

Weights and Measures Department,

County Hall, Maidstone.

26 February, 1942,

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1941.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,—

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of work carried out in my Department during the year 1941.

HOUSING.

Housing inspection during the year has been of a general character, but every effort has been made to keep houses weather proof and in a reasonable state of repair.

One hundred and four Intimation Notices were sent out for defects found, and the necessary repairs were carried out.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 2 Common Lodging Houses in the District, situated in Gas Road and High Street, Milton.

These have a total accommodation of 54 beds, 30 and 24 respectively.

Frequent visits are made at varying times, and generally speaking they have been kept in a clean condition.

There are 2 Houses “ Let-in-Lodgings.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis (5), Diphtheria (3), Scarlet Fever (47), Typhoid Fever (1), Erysipelas (6), and Pulmonary Tuberculosis (11), were investigated and disinfection carried out after the patients had been removed to Hospital.

Library books used by patients are disinfected before being returned.

FACTORIES ACT.

There are 93 Factories, including 7 Bakehouses on the Register. Thirty-nine of these were premises where no “ mechanical power ” is used, and are under the control of the Local Authority.

Periodical inspections have been made, special attention being given to cleanliness, ventilation and sanitary accommodation. I found the premises kept in a satisfactory condition,

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary arrangements in connection with the Schools are frequently inspected and usually found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

With one exception—Holy Trinity Schools—all are provided with the “individual pan” type of Water Closet with proper flushing cisterns.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are in the District 2 Cowkeepers, 7 Milkshops and Dairies, and 23 Purveyors of Milk. A number of shops are retailing “Sterilised Milk” which is sold in bottles only. We have in our district 2 retailers of “Tuberculin Tested Milk” and 1 retailer of Pasteurised Milk.

Every effort is made to maintain a high standard of cleanliness. Frequent inspections are made of the premises where the milk is produced and retailed and attention paid to the condition of cattle and utensils. In addition samples are taken regularly for bacteriological examination. A high standard was maintained.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND FOODSHOPS.

All slaughtering is now done at the two Government Slaughter Houses in East Street.

During the year 10,036 carcasses have been inspected, compared with 14,600 in the year 1940.

The following table shows details of meat and food condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

14 Bovine Carcasses (4 T.B., 4 Fevered, 4 Dropsical, 2 Suffocation)	4,173 lbs.
1 Calf (Fevered)	55 lbs.
28 Sheep (Fevered and emaciation)	1,046 lbs.
1 Pig and Part (T.B.)	116 lbs.
Edible Offal	7,935 lbs.
Miscellaneous	654 lbs.
	13,979 lbs.

Total ... 6 tons, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

In addition to the Slaughter Houses, there are 22 Butchers' Shops, 7 Fried Fish Shops, and 10 Fish Shops in the District,

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Under this Act it is the duty of the occupier of lands and buildings to take all necessary steps to destroy rats and mice on or in lands or buildings and to prevent the premises becoming infested.

All complaints have been promptly dealt with and advice given. A supply of reliable Rat Poison is kept at my Office and sold at cost price, 6d. per packet.

I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their helpful co-operation and support during the year.

I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH VARLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

FAVERSHAM PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1941.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

During the year under review I am pleased to report that on no occasion have I found it necessary to make application or serve notices on the owners of the vessels in regard to sanitary defects.

The vessels as a whole are well kept and clean, and the water supply arrangements are satisfactory, iron tanks or barrels being used for the storage of water.

Occasionally barges freighted with manure for agricultural purposes arrive, and these before departure are properly cleaned.

As previously stated, very few rats get aboard the vessels, but, when they are found, quick measures are taken to exterminate them.

Number of vessels entering Milton Creek during the year was 1,199, all home traffic. Motor Vessels, 41 (tonnage 3,772), Sailing Vessels and Lighters, 1,158 (tonnage 83,005), of which 35 were inspected, none were found defective.

No cases of Infectious Disease.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH VARLEY.